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PAGE 001

16 JUN 90

DIRECTOR

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TO: DIRNSA, DEPT OF STATE//FOR INR, DIA WASHINGTON DC,  
TREASURY DEPT, WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM, USCINCSO QHTS PANAMA.

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

WARNING: INFORMATION REPORT, NOT FINALLY EVALUATED INTELLIGENCE.

DIST: 15 JUNE 1990

COUNTRY: CHILE

Declassified and  
Approved for Release  
E.O. 13526

3. [REDACTED] PINOCHET HAS RECOGNIZED SOME PERSONAL POLITICAL MISSTEPS IN RECENT WEEKS, WHILE ACKNOWLEDGING PRIVATELY ANTI-ARMY/PINOCHET PRESSURES AS A RESULT OF RECENT EVENTS PUBLICIZING EXECUTIONS AND MASS BURIALS BY THE ARMED FORCES FOLLOWING THE 1973 COUP. IN WHAT APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN AN ATTEMPT BY PINOCHET TO ALLEVIATE PRESSURE AGAINST THE ARMY AND HIMSELF, [REDACTED]

4. [REDACTED] COMMENT: AS A RESULT OF THE PISAGUA MASS GRAVE DISCOVERIES THERE IS CURRENTLY WIDESPREAD CRITICISM OF PINOCHET AND THE MILITARY. GIVEN THE SENSITIVITIES INVOLVED AND THE GOVERNMENT'S DESIRE TO NOT INTENTIONALLY PROVOKE THE MILITARY, IT IS PROBABLE THE GOVERNMENT WILL DISASSOCIATE ITSELF OFFICIALLY FROM ANY ANTI-PINOCHET/MILITARY ACTIVITY. HAVING REPEATEDLY STATED THE MILITARY AS AN INSTITUTION IS NOT BEING JUDGED, THE LINE OF REASONING ADVANCED BY PINOCHET [REDACTED] APPEARS TO BE A THINLY VEILED WARNING TO THE GOVERNMENT REGARDING THE POSSIBLE CONSEQUENCES OF CONTINUED ACTIVITY WHICH WOULD INFLAME PUBLIC OPINION AGAINST PINOCHET AND THE MILITARY.)

5. [REDACTED] COMMENT: SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO FORCE PINOCHET'S RESIGNATION AS COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF HAS PROBABLY EBBED IN THE WAKE OF THE PISAGUA AFFAIR. THE HIGHLY EMOTIONAL REACTION AND EXTRAVAGANT STATEMENTS FOLLOWING THE DISCOVERY DEMONSTRATED HOW EASILY EVENTS COULD SLIP BEYOND THE GOVERNMENT'S CONTROL AND COULD THREATEN A REASONED, MODERATE APPROACH TO SOLVING THE HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEM. (THE ARMED FORCES AS A WHOLE Banded TOGETHER IN THE FACE OF SEVERE CRITICISM, AND ANY ATTEMPT TO FORCE PINOCHET OUT AT THIS TIME WOULD ONLY INCREASE HIS SUPPORT WITHIN THE ARMED FORCES.)